

DELEGATED OFFICER REPORT:**Application Ref:** PN/95547**Site Address:** Chestnut Avenue, North Stoneham, Eastleigh, SO50 5EL**Case Officer:** Clare Martin**Description:** Proposed telecommunications installation: Proposed 15.0m Phase 8 Monopole and associated ancillary works (resubmission of PN/23/94956).

Particular Site Constraints?	Yes ☐	No ☒
Details:		

Planning History?	Yes ☒	No ☐
PN/23/94956 - Prior notification application for the installation of a 15.0m high phase 8 monopole, 3no. equipment cabinets and associated ancillary works – Refused (10/5/23)		

Publicity:	Letters ☒	Site Notice ☒	Newspaper ☐
Representations:	None		
Tree Officer:	<u>No objection</u> The submitted arboricultural information demonstrates that the equipment is outside of the Root Protection Areas for the trees		
Environmental Health Officer:	<u>No objection</u> Included with the application is a draft "Declaration of Conformity with International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection Public Exposure Guidelines".		
Transport Officer (HCC):	<u>No objection</u> The proposed Monopole and associated infrastructure are located on a grass verge outside of any required visibility splays. Onwards, it is not foreseen that the verge width would be required for any future highway improvement measures, given the adjacent footway has already been upgraded to a shared use pedestrian and cycle facility.		
Town Council:			
Southampton Airport:	No objection		

Site Visit:	Yes ☒	No ☐
Details: Site visit carried out 25 th July 2023		

Pre-commencement Conditions:	Yes ☐	No ☒
Details:		

Legislation:
The Town & Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) (Amendment) Order 2015, Part 16 of Schedule 2, Class A allows the installation, alteration or replacement of any electronic communications apparatus by an electronic

communications code operator. The proposal complies with the requirements set out within this use class and therefore the principle of development is acceptable.

Under the above Act the developer must apply to the Local Planning Authority, before starting development, to determine whether the prior approval of the authority will be required as to the siting and appearance of the proposed development.

Policy:

National Planning Policy Framework Planning Practice Guidance

Development Plan:

The Eastleigh Borough Local Plan 2016-2036 The most relevant policies are Strategic policies S1 and S2; and Development Management policies DM1 & DM9.

Supplementary Planning Documents:

Trees and Development

Proposal:

The communications equipment is to infill a gap in the UK H3G (three) network in order to increase capacity and coverage in the area, most notably in relation to 5G services. The prior notification application comprises the installation of an 15m high monopole telecommunications mast with associated antennas and 3no. equipment cabinets.

The submission includes:

- Site specific supplementary information
- An ICNIRP certificate declaring the equipment conforms to public exposure guidelines.
- Developers notice made under article 13.
- Confirmation that the CAA and Southampton Airport were contacted prior to submitting the application (within site specific supplementary information).

Assessment:

Trees (siting)

The proposed telecommunications mast and associated equipment cabinet would be located on a narrow verge between the edge of the pavement and the playing fields for the local secondary school. A high metal fence marks the boundary and close behind this is a row of Sweet Chestnut Trees located in the school grounds. The Sweet Chestnut Trees are a significant arboricultural feature in the locality and add to the character and appearance of Chestnut Avenue.

The proposal is a resubmission of a previously application, which was refused due to the potential impact the development would have on the Sweet Chestnut Tree. In response the proposal has been amended to move the three equipment cabinets away from the trees and now located on the eastern side of the mast. The scheme is also accompanied by arboricultural information, which shows all of telecommunication's equipment and mast is located outside of the root protection area for the trees. Furthermore, the presence of these trees helps to soften the appearance of the mast and allow the equipment to better blend in with the street scene.

Other Considerations

- The proposed mast and associated equipment would be located on a grass verge where it will not obstruct the footpath and will not affect visibility splays. No objection has been raised by the Transport Officer.

- While the mast would be visible from some of the residential properties on the opposite side of Chestnut Avenue, and from the nearby school and colleges, the impact on their outlook is not to such an extent as to be considered unacceptable.
- It is noted that the bulk of the mast, antennas and equipment cabinets have been minimised as much as possible and the Local Planning Authority does not object to the design of the telecommunications equipment.

Equalities Act:

Section 149 of the Equalities Act 2010 created the public sector equality duty.

Section 149 (1) states:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

When making policy decisions, the Council must take account of the equality duty and in particular any potential impact on protected groups.

It is considered that this application does not raise any equality implications.

Climate Change:

In July 2019, the Council declared a Climate Change and Environmental Emergency. In doing so it agreed, among other things, to: (a) put in place measures to ensure the Council's own operations and functions achieve carbon neutrality by 2025; (b) work with partners to aim for all projects and services delivered in the Borough to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030; (c) ensure that the Council's procurement policy recognises carbon neutrality as one of its primary considerations; and (d) recognise the urgency of action to mitigate and adapt to climate change in every decision taken by the Council. This is underpinned by the Climate and Environment Emergency Strategy 2020–2030 and the supporting Climate and Environmental Emergency Action Plan – Update June 2020.

The declaration of the Climate Change and Environmental Emergency demonstrates a strong commitment from the Council to achieve net zero. The NPPF, development plan and emerging plan policy do not set this as a specific target, but it is a material consideration to be considered alongside all other material considerations. In any case addressing climate change is a core part of the NPPF and emerging plan policy. The need to support the economy is part of the Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Emerging Local Plan, as is an assessment of climate impacts.

The NPPF aims for the need for housing to be met, and Policy S2 of the Adopted Local Plan sets a target for 14,580 dwellings to be provided by 2036. The NPPF, Saved, Policies S1, DM2 and DM3 of the Adopted Local Plan and energy and water elements of the adopted Environmentally Sustainable Development SPD require development to be sustainable in terms of resource use, climate change and energy use. When considering the impact of climate change, the proposed development is expected to be resilient to the potential effects of climate change and is expected to reduce/limit impacts on climate emissions as a result of the development or its use.

Conclusion:

Recommendation:

PERMIT ☒

REFUSE ☐

Comments ...